

MAINE'S PERIL.

Opposing Factions Still Angrily Confront Each Other.

THE BANGOR MOB.

Adjutant French Explains He Returned the Arms to Avoid Bloodshed.

REPORT FROM THE COUNCIL.

Reasons Why the Returns of Towns and Cities Were Thrown Out.

DOUBTFUL MILITIA FORCE.

Governor Garcelon's Vigorous Reply to Mr. Morrill.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

ANGUSTA, Dec. 26, 1879.

The political excitement in Maine, heretofore at fever heat, has been increased to a fearful extent by the report from Bangor that on Christmas Day an officer of the State in the performance of official duties was hindered from performing those duties by an infuriated mob of republicans urged on by Editor Boutelle, of the Bangor *Whig and Courier*. To-day the streets of Augusta have been thronged with an excited and curious crowd of men anxious to learn the true situation of affairs in Maine. Standard printed an extra edition this afternoon in which was published telegraphic reports from Bangor and other matters concerning the situation. The Standard says:—

"The news from Bangor is simply astounding. Notwithstanding the incendiary appeals to the passions of men all over the State, treasonable utterances and threats of angry, evil disposed persons to rebel against the regular constituted authorities of the State, few men were prepared for an actual outbreak at this time, and they can hardly realize now that treason actually exists in our good old State and has actually developed itself in overt acts. But such are the facts. Unexpected and unwelcome as these are they must be met and dealt with all the same. We advise calm and deliberate consideration and action in the premises; but there must be no yielding to mobs, no halting at a fence, and no succumbing to the authorities in suppressing insurrection. Public order must be preserved at all hazards, and all good citizens, without distinction of party, should come forward and lend their influence for the preservation of the dignity and peace of the State. The only division now is to be between loyalists and rebels. Will you stand on the side of the government or the rebellion?"

THROWING BLAME ON BLAINE. Many influential republicans in this city deprecate the Bangor riot of yesterday, and say that they do not propose to set themselves up as a mark behind which Blaine and Hamlin may sneak. They assert with considerable vehemence that Blaine has started the rebellion by inaugurating, at the expense of the Republican State Committee, the series of indignation meetings at which loud and open threats were made against the State authorities, and of appealing to force of arms to prevent the State from the legally constituted authorities their possession, and that if any fighting is to be done Blaine and his stalwart associates must do it. Democrats generally are satisfied that the outbreak has come, and that it was started and led on by Blaine and Hamlin's foremost stalwart, Charles A. Boutelle.

A TINY MILITIA FORCE.

Governor Garcelon arrived in the city this afternoon from his home in Lewiston, where he was spending Christmas, and where he was notified of the Bangor incident by messenger last night. What steps are to be taken is impossible to say, but it is expected that the militia will be called out to preserve peace and order. The Maine militia is commanded by Joshua L. Chamberlain, who resides in Brunswick, thirty miles from Augusta. What his dispositions are it will be impossible for me to accurately determine to-night, but as he bears an excellent reputation as a soldier I have no doubt he will obey the commands of Governor Garcelon, who is Commander-in-Chief of all the land and other forces of the State. The State militia of Maine consists of the First regiment, ten companies, three unattached companies of infantry and one company of light artillery. The Governor's staff consists of the following:—Brigadier General Samuel D. Leavitt, Eastport; Adjutant General S. Clifford Belcher, Farmington; Inspector General, Colonel George Cory, Houlton; Assistant Surgeon General, Colonel Benjamin F. Smith, Wiscasset; Assistant Judge Advocate General, Colonel John F. Lynch, Machias; aide-de-camp, with the rank of lieutenant colonel, Charles H. Osgood, Lewiston; Ethelred Gerry, Jr., Portland; W. B. G. Bates, Skowhegan; and Charles B. Morton, Augusta; Military Secretary, Major Seth B. Sprague, Milo; Major General Joshua L. Chamberlain, Brunswick, not assigned to command. The companies comprising the First regiment are as follows:—Portland Light Infantry, Company A; Portland Mechanic Blues, Company B; Auburn Light Infantry, Company C; Norway Light Infantry, Company D; Skowhegan Light Infantry, Company E; Capital Guards, Augusta, Company F; Jameson Guards, Bangor, Company G; Belfast City Guards, Bangor; Crooley Guards, Hampden, Company I; Hersey Light Infantry, Oldtown, Company K. The unattached companies are the Portland Guards, Infantry; Biddeford Light Infantry, Biddeford; Light Infantry, Gardiner; Androscoggin Light Infantry, Gardiner; Lewiston Light Infantry, Lewiston; and the Maine Militia, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Daniel White, of Bangor, with M. M. Folsom, of Oldtown, Major. The unattached companies are commanded by their own captains. At present the entire force will not exceed eight hundred men; but there appears no disposition on the part of the men or officers to refuse acting if called upon by the Governor.

SYMPATHY WITH THE GOVERNOR.

The following dispatch was sent Governor Garcelon last night:—

OLD TOWN, Dec. 26, 1879.

ALONZO GARCELON, Governor of Maine:—

The loyal citizens of Old Town are prepared to respond to your call for aid at a moment's notice.

M. M. FOLSOM.

The following letter was to-day received by His Excellency from a former Governor of New Jersey:—

RAMSEY, N. J., Dec. 25, 1879.

To His Excellency Governor Garcelon:—

My Dear Sir:—As a citizen of New Jersey I am exceedingly interested in the present controversy in your State, which excites the attention of the whole country. Having in view the principles of the democratic party, I most sincerely hope that the constitutional grounds taken by Your Excellency will not meet the full support of your people, but also the approbation of the patriotic, honest and brave thinking men in our country. The action of your State upon this question is important in view of its effect upon the other States, which carry their elections in the coming Presidential campaign upon principles in keeping with the fundamental doctrine of the law and to substitute instead thereof brute force, and we of New Jersey hope that the substantial thinkers of your State will adhere to the principles enunciated by your Excellency, and that they will not be intimidated by the threats of any partisan power that has heretofore threatened the State. In this writing you I beg you to believe that I have considered only the welfare of our common country, and in this spirit I subscribe myself your fellow citizen, RODMAN M. PILLOW.

MAJOR FRENCH ON THE BANGOR INCIDENT.

The trouble at Bangor was occasioned by the fact that Major French, of this city, Assistant Adjutant General, paid a visit to the State Arsenal at Bangor

yesterday, in order to procure certain arms, in compliance with an order from Governor Garcelon to that effect. The indignation meetings of the republicans, the incendiary and inflammatory speeches made thereat and the threats of violence against the State House by the republican press and leaders warned Governor Garcelon of the necessity of protecting the property of the State from destruction in the event of such an attack as had been many times threatened by leading and prominent republicans publicly. Accordingly, on Wednesday, Governor Garcelon, Major French, and the necessary military and police forces, and equipments from the State Arsenal, then and there proceeded to Bangor. Major French, after his unsuccessful attempt at moving the stores, left immediately for Augusta, where he arrived at a late hour last night. The *HERALD* representative called upon the Major at his office in the State House this morning and obtained from him the following description of his trip and the adventure connected therewith:—

"I was ordered by the Governor on Wednesday to go to Bangor at once and ship from the arsenal there a sufficient number of arms and equipments to guard the State House in case the threat of evil disposed men were carried into execution. I left Augusta on the Pullman train Thursday morning and arrived at Bangor about six o'clock. I understood that the State Arsenal was somewhere talking about the indignation meetings that had been held, and the probable result of the situation. The arsenal is situated some two miles from the city, and the arsenal keeper, Mr. Horace S. Smith, resides some distance from the arsenal depot. After breakfast at Penobscot Exchange I went up to Smith's house, but he was not at home. I left word with his wife for him to be at the arsenal at two o'clock. At that hour I took a hack for the arsenal, where I found Mr. Smith. My errand was quickly made known, and the arms, &c., packed in boxes, loaded upon two truck teams and on the way to the depot at four o'clock.

TURNING THE ARMS BACK. "I had no idea that any trouble would be made, for it is a common occurrence for the Adjutant General or his clerks to order at any time the shipment of stores from the Bangor Arsenal. Therefore no apprehension of danger occurred to me. I rode back to the Exchange, where I arrived about half-past four o'clock. Shortly after word was brought in that the teams bearing the arms had been surrounded by an immense crowd of men, the horses of the head team having been stopped by a republican named Boyd on Hammond street, in front of the *Whig and Courier* office, where Boutelle was making an inflammatory speech, saying that those arms should not go another step further. When I arrived upon the scene I found a crowd of more than a thousand men, who had congregated almost in an instant, and it would, in my opinion, have been impossible for me to have proceeded to the depot. I was met by a man, whom I afterward learned was Boutelle, who demanded of me by what authority I was moving those arms. I replied, 'By the authority of the Governor.' I was then informed by some one that the Major wished to see me and that he was in the centre of the crowd. I managed, with some difficulty, to elbow my way to the Major's side. He informed me that it would be impossible for him to control the crowd of infuriated men if I persisted in moving the stores; that in such an event blood would be spilled and he could not be responsible for the result. He said I could do as I pleased about the matter, but said the trouble would be severe. I had no military under me. The police were powerless to aid me in any way, and to avoid a conflict in the streets of Bangor, with the probability of the destruction of much valuable property, I ordered the truckmen to turn about and return the stores to the arsenal, the Major sending a squad of police to guard them from a possible attack.

POLICE PROTECTION NOT NEEDED. "Many angry threats were made against me by a great many republicans, and the Major offered me the protection of the police, but I did not have reason to call for any assistance. I at once telegraphed Governor Garcelon the fact that the stores had been stopped by a crowd upon the streets and that I had sent them back to the arsenal and that I was in Augusta on the Pullman train. My friends in Bangor informed me that a secret military company had been formed among the republicans and my steps had been watched. In fact, after I left the arsenal a hack containing Boutelle and some other republicans drove out there, for the purpose of watching my movements, no doubt. I am satisfied that the feelings engendered by the writings and speeches of the stalwart editors in Maine occasioned the whole trouble."

Major French is given credit for the forethought and presence of mind which prompted him to order the arms back to the arsenal, and thus avoided the spilling of blood and the destruction of property. A special meeting of the Board of Aldermen of Augusta was held this afternoon, and appointed 200 special policemen to look out for property and the lives of the citizens. Mayor Nash is personally active in completing all necessary arrangements.

GARCELON'S REPLY TO MORRILL.

Governor Garcelon has replied to the letter of Mr. Morrill as follows:—

LEWISTOWN, Dec. 26, 1879.

Hon. LOT M. MORRILL, Chairman, &c.:—

Star-Your communication of the 24th reached me yesterday. I was leaving Augusta, and I take this early opportunity to reply. The excitement in the public mind is, in my judgment, wholly unwarranted, and, in my opinion, the result of a systematic attack of vituperation and slander upon the Executive Department, not only unwarranted, but also unwarranted. It is the duty of every good citizen to use his best endeavors to allay public excitement, however excited, so far as he is able, and to resort to such measures as will preserve peace and order, and at the same time secure the ends of justice. You intimate that it is in the power of the Executive Department to secure quality and good feeling to the State and all its inhabitants, by making the opinion of the Supreme Court each year a part of the returns in the vetoes of the Governor. Nothing would give me greater pleasure than an authoritative opinion upon the whole subject, and I am sure that the condition of affairs and also upon such as might be likely to arise. Please to indicate the points that you wish me to consider, and I will be glad to take them up, and I do not think that we may be able to secure a satisfactory solution of doubtful complications; or, if not satisfactory, at least such as will be the result of the Executive Department. We are fully satisfied that that kind of spirit is clearly in violation of the letter and spirit of the foregoing name statute, and we have accordingly rejected the returns of the number of ballots in making our tabulations.

THROWING OUT THE RETURNS OF TOWNS.

A prominent citizen of this city, who returns from the town of Cherryfield on the ground that the officers who attested the returns were not legal officers, has written to the Governor, asking him to throw out the returns of that town. The Governor has replied to the effect that the returns of that town were not legal, and that he has accordingly rejected them.

THE RETURN OF TOWNS.

The undersigned do not petition Your Excellency as petitioners or as advocates of the election of any particular man or set of men, but as citizens of Maine, anxious that the only justice may prevail, and, through wise, orderly and constitutional methods, a result may be reached that will be satisfactory to the great body of our people of all political parties and sure to remove even the possibility of civil discord and violence.

A similar petition was made to the Governor to-night, signed by seventy-nine citizens of Richmond county without distinction of party; also a petition from Hallowell, signed by republicans, democrats and greenbackers. Indignation meetings have been held in various places throughout the State to-night, and addresses were made by prominent citizens and others of leading local influence. There were conferences at Biddeford, South Berwick, Rockland, Lewiston and other places. The adherents of all the political parties were in attendance. At Olanais the principal speech was by ex-Congressman Pike, who said in the course of his remarks:—"The election of State officers is the most important political action of the next Legislature, and will give the democrats a chance to overthrow the State for the democratic candidate for President in 1880, for they cannot hold their seventy-eight men for the support of this fraud. A large fraction of them

will rebel against every one of the five decisions. As yet they are in no wise committed by the action of the Governor, and I venture nothing in saying they never will be. Republicans will make a fight, only knowing themselves to be right, and knowing that the other party know the same thing."

A REPORT FROM THE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.

For some days Messrs. Brown and Fogg, of the Governor's Council, have been engaged in preparing a report to the committee of the Senate and the House in throwing out certain towns and certain representatives who seemed to have been elected by the returns. This report is intended to be a justification to the country of the action of the Council in the premises. The report says:—

Your committee, in submitting this report, deem it necessary to state specifically certain facts connected with the returns from many of the towns, cities and plantations, which have materially affected the result of the canvassing of the votes returned. There are many returns which, owing to total defects, cannot be counted, and which we specify only those which have affected the result. Article 4, part 1, section 5 of the constitution requires the returns to be made in the following manner: "The returns to the Legislature and also the process of transmitting to the Governor and Council the evidence by which they are to determine who have been elected shall be in the following form: 'The returns of the voters of the town of _____, in the county of _____, are as follows: _____' This list shall be recorded in open meeting by the clerk and a copy of this recorded list shall be signed by the selectmen and attested by the clerk and the returns shall be deposited in the office of the Secretary of State within thirty days thereafter. 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